GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:224
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
CULTIVATION OF FRUITS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the Government is encouraging banana, pineapple and mango cultivators of the country to bring more land under cultivation of said fruits;

(b) whether any special scheme for training and marketing has been launched by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States (TMNE), Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in remaining States and Union Territories for the holistic development of Horticulture. Bringing more area under cultivation of Horticulture crops including fruit crops like Mango, Banana and Pineapple through area expansion is one of the main components under both the schemes. In the case of perennial crops like Mango, assistance is being provided to the cultivators @ 75% of cost of cultivation subject to a maximum of Rs.22,500/- per ha limited to 4 ha per beneficiary. Similarly, for non-perennial fruits like Banana and Pineapple, assistance is being provided @50% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs.15000/- per ha, limited to 4 ha per beneficiary.

Besides, National Horticulture Board is also providing assistance under the Scheme of `Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management`. Under fruit crops Mango, Banana and Pineapple are also covered.

(b)&(c): Under both the NHM and TMNE schemes, there is provision to impart training to farmers, gardeners, Departmental officers and entrepreneurs under the Human Resource Development component. Development of Marketing infrastructure by setting up of Wholesale markets, Rural markets/Apni Mandies is also covered under these schemes. Besides, there is provision for setting up of Terminal Markets under the NHM scheme.